Amendments to Essential Commodities Act, 1955

†*333. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to re-amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2005 to amend the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 20.12.2005.

National Policy on Farmers

*334. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to adopt a National Policy on Farmers;

(b) if so, whether a draft of the policy has been prepared;

(c) the agencies from whom assistance has been obtained to prepare the draft; and

(d) the details of essential features of the draft policy?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) National Commission on Farmers has in its Fourth Report included a chapter on Draft National Policy on Farmers. The Commission is, at present, engaged in holding wider consultations with the State Governments and other stakeholders to further concretize their views in the matter. The Commission has indicated that the revised chapter on Draft National Policy on Farmers shall be included in their Fifth and Final Report, which has not yet been submitted.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.